

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/743,395	SVETLIK, HARVEY E.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Aaron M Dunwoody	3679	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 12/20/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 20 December 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>20050228</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Aaron Dunwoody
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3679

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Charles D. Gunter on 2/28/2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended): A pipe coupling for coupling adjacent ends of a pair of pipe sections where one of the pipe sections is formed of a polyolefin and the other pipe section is formed of a different material, the coupling comprising:

an adapter formed of a length of pipe having a polyolefin pipe wall, the adapter having a fusing end for fusing to a successive length of polyolefin pipe and a coupling end;

wherein the coupling end of the adapter has a nominal thickness pipe wall with an integral flange formed at one end thereof,

wherein the integral flange defines a bell end opening for the adapter, the bell end opening having a first region of reduced internal diameter for receiving a sealing gasket therein, the sealing gasket being conically profiled when viewed in cross section having an inner extent and an outer extent, the bell end opening also having a second region of further reduced internal diameter which forms a circumferential shoulder

Art Unit: 3679

region therein for receiving a male spigot end of a mating pipe which is formed of the different material;

the adapter integral flange having a front face, a rear face and an outer peripheral surface, and wherein a rigid metal reinforcing ring is closely received upon and circumscribes the outer peripheral surface forming an outer sleeve thereon in order to strengthen the connection and prevent extrusion of the sealing gasket when the spigot end of a mating male pipe is inserted within the bell end opening of the adapter to form the pipe coupling, the first region of reduced internal diameter forming a sloping conical surface for receiving the conically profiled sealing gasket, the outer extent of the sealing gasket being located approximately flush with the front face of the integral flange of the adapter; and

a mechanical restraint system which engages an external surface of the mating male pipe and the front and rear faces of the integral flange, respectively, in order to prevent the mating male pipe from pulling away from the bell end opening of the integral flange, the mechanical restraint system including a gland ring and a cooperating restraining gland which are connected by a series of cross bolts, whereby tightening the cross bolts causes force to be exerted on the mechanical restraint in order to compress the sealing gasket and prevent separation of the coupling, the restraining gland being provided with a series of circumferential holes which receive restraining screws, the screws having lower ends which bite into the external surface of the mating male pipe.

Art Unit: 3679

Claim 3 (currently amended): A pipe joint, comprising:

a first section of pipe having a polyolefin pipe wall and a second section of pipe of a different material;

an adapter formed of a length of pipe having a polyolefin pipe wall, the adapter having a fusing end which is fused to the first section of pipe, the adapter also having a coupling end;

wherein the coupling end of the adapter is joined to the fusing end by a nominal thickness pipe wall with an integral flange being formed on the coupling end thereof,

wherein the integral flange defines a bell end opening for the adapter, the bell end opening having a first region of reduced internal diameter for receiving a sealing gasket therein, the sealing gasket being conically profiled when viewed in cross section having an inner extent and an outer extent, the bell end opening also having a second region of further reduced internal diameter which forms a circumferential shoulder region therein for receiving a male spigot end of a mating pipe which is formed of the different material;

the adapter integral flange having a front face, a rear face and an outer peripheral surface, and wherein a rigid metal reinforcing ring is closely received upon and circumscribes the outer peripheral surface forming an outer sleeve thereon in order to strengthen the connection and prevent extrusion of the sealing gasket when the spigot end of a mating male pipe is inserted within the bell end opening of the adapter to form the pipe coupling, the first region of reduced internal diameter forming a sloping conical surface for receiving the conically profiled sealing gasket, the outer extent of the

Art Unit: 3679

sealing gasket being located approximately flush with the front face of the integral flange of the adapter;

the a sealing gasket installed within the second region of reduced internal diameter of the integral flange; and

a male spigot pipe end of the second section of pipe being inserted within the bell end opening and engaging the circumferential shoulder region thereof to thereby form a sealed pipe joint; and

a mechanical restraint system which engages an external surface of the second section of pipe of the different material and the front and rear faces of the integral flange, respectively, in order to prevent the second section of pipe from pulling away from the bell end opening of the integral flange, the mechanical restraint system including a gland ring and a cooperating restraining gland which are connected by a series of cross bolts, whereby tightening the cross bolts causes force to be exerted on the mechanical restraint in order to compress the sealing gasket and prevent separation of the coupling, the restraining gland being provided with a series of circumferential holes which receive restraining screws, the screws having lower ends which bite into the external surface of the second section of pipe.

Cancel claims 6 and 7.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Aaron M Dunwoody whose telephone number is 703-306-3436. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 am - 4:00 pm.

Art Unit: 3679

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel P Stodola can be reached on 703-306-5771. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Aaron M Dunwoody
Examiner
Art Unit 3679

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